

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, Victor Carlson on June 25, 1925, northeast of Langford, South Dakota, was born to Oscar and Hilda Carlson; and,

WHEREAS, Victor attended rural school east of Langford, South Dakota, and graduated from Langford High School in 1943. He earned several years and moved to Aberdeen, South Dakota, in 1956 where he was employed at the Aberdeen American News for 26 years; and,

WHEREAS, Vic's history of playing music started on a button accordion that his father owned, and Vic still carries the same button accordion on most dance jobs; and,

WHEREAS, Growing up in the depression days, toys were few so he found joy and comfort in teaching himself to play this accordion; and,

WHEREAS, When Vic was 15 years old, his father bought him his first piano accordion and, on Sunday and Wednesday nights, he played his first dances; and,

WHEREAS, He carried his accordion three blocks, to and from, and got one dollar for the night. Vic's parents had a parlor organ so he had a little background. However, he only knew three songs so he played them over and over all night; and,

WHEREAS, Vic organized his first five piece band in the mid 40s, and called the band Vic and the Scandinavians; and,

WHEREAS, Vic has played for 50 years, and that has brought him in contact with lots of great musicians. He likes to take part in Polka fests and never goes alone. The accordion is always with him and he states, "sometimes I take my wife along too." Some other musicians he has played with are Arnold and Raydon Lorensberg, Arnie Holland, Lloyd Bolland, Robert Benda, Tomas Breske, Ted Henning, George Nelson, Robert Jarvis, Del Woodward, Larry Thompson, Clarence Hite, Fred Geffre, Leo Geffre, Al Schumacher, Johnny Graves, Larry Neumiller, Elmer Brick, Bob Svengel, and Gene Graves; and,

WHEREAS, After moving to Aberdeen, Vic played with the Melody Polka Dots--a 3-piece group--with George Heisler and Plus Reis. A few years later, Vic played in a duo with Mike Eisenbeisz then as a trio with Buss Cacavas on drums. When Buss moved away, a new drummer was picked up--Enock Friezen, Ervin Huber and, later on, Orville Heib--this was the first Mike & The Playboys Band; and,

WHEREAS, Vic retired from the music business for a few years. Then in 1981, Vic organized his current band, Vic Carlson & Co., which consists of Vic on accordion, his wife Lavonne on piano, and Henry Kienast on guitar; and,

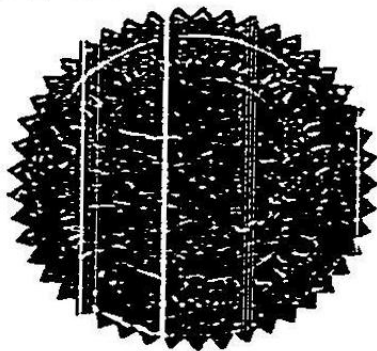
WHEREAS, Throughout the years, Victor Carlson has given so much of himself and the Dakota area it seems only right that this maker of melodies be rewarded and recognized for his fine achievements in the arts; and,

WHEREAS, For all the above mentioned and unselfish deeds, it is only right to just that the Dakota Musicians Association has chosen Victor Carlson, as the local inductee, to be inducted into the Dakota Musicians Association Hall of Fame;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the state of South Dakota,
do hereby proclaim April 19, 1990, as

VICTOR CARLSON DAY

in South Dakota.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand and caused to be affixed
the Great Seal of the State of South
Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City,
this Eleventh Day of April, in the
Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and
Ninety


GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE